Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended). A method of determining air humidity with a capacitive moisture measuring element, comprising:

~~a method step in which~~determining a current moisture signal ~~is ascertained~~ from electrical properties of the capacitive moisture measuring element, and

~~a method step in which~~determining a corrected moisture signal ~~is calculated~~ from the current moisture signal, wherein in a measuring phase with rising relative air humidity RH the corrected moisture signal is the current moisture increased by a correction value a(RH) and wherein in a measuring phase with falling relative air humidity RH the corrected moisture signal reduced by a correction value a(RH).

Claim 2 (original). A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the correction value a(RH) is constant.

Claim 3 (original). A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the correction value a(RH) is used from a stored table or is calculated as a mathematical function.

Claim 4 (currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein charging and/or discharging the capacitive moisture measuring element by way of a first measuring resistor provides for determining ~~ascertaining~~ a first time constant or a first period duration of the charging and/or discharging operation, and charging and/or discharging the capacitive moisture measuring element by way of a second measuring resistor, whose value is different from the value of the first measuring resistor, provides for determining ~~ascertaining~~ a second time constant or a second period duration of the charging and/or discharging operation.

Claim 5 (currently amended). A method as set forth in claim 4, wherein the capacitance of the capacitive moisture measuring element is calculated from the two time constants or the two period durations, and the capacitive moisture measuring element for the calculation operation is modeled by a parallel circuit of an ideal capacitor and an ohmic resistance.

Claim 6 (currently amended). A method as set forth in claim 4, wherein the ohmic resistance value of the capacitive moisture measuring element is calculated from the two time constants or the two period durations, and the moisture measuring element for the calculation operation is modeled by a parallel circuit of an ideal capacitor and an ohmic resistance.

Claim 7 (currently amended). A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the current moisture signal is determining ~~ascertaining~~ with the capacitance of the capacitive moisture measuring element.

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (currently amended). A moisture sensor as set forth in claim 11~~8~~, further comprising a monitoring unit by which a certain deviation in an ohmic resistance value of the capacitive moisture measuring element over a relatively long period of time can be detected and signalled.

Claim 11 (new). A moisture sensor, comprising:

a capacitive moisture measuring element;

a processing circuit configured to determine a current moisture signal from electrical properties of the capacitive moisture measuring element, and determine a corrected moisture signal from the current moisture signal, wherein in a measuring phase with rising relative air humidity RH the corrected moisture signal is the current moisture increased by a correction value a(RH) and wherein in a measuring phase with falling relative air humidity RH the corrected moisture signal reduced by a correction value a(RH).

Claim 12 (new). A moisture sensor as set forth in claim 11, wherein the processing circuit includes a measurement determination unit configured to generate the current moisture signal and a correction unit configured to determine the corrected moisture signal.

Claim 13 (new). A moisture sensor as set forth in claim 12, wherein the measurement determination unit includes a timer unit and a control unit, the timer unit configured as a multivibrator.

Claim 14 (new). A moisture sensor as set forth in claim 12, wherein the measurement determination unit is further configured to:

charge and/or discharge the capacitive moisture measuring element by way of a first measuring resistor to provide for determining a first time constant or a first period duration of the charging and/or discharging, and charge and/or discharge the capacitive moisture measuring element by way of a second measuring resistor, whose value is different from the value of the first measuring resistor, to provide for determining a second time constant or a second period duration of the charging and/or discharging.

Claim 15 (new). A method of determining air humidity with a capacitive moisture measuring element, comprising:

determining a current moisture signal from electrical properties of the moisture measuring element;

adjusting the current moisture signal in a first direction to generate a corrected current moisture signal if a rising relative air humidity is detected; and

adjusting the current moisture signal in a second direction to generate the corrected current moisture signal if a falling relative air humidity is detected, the second direction opposite of the first direction.

Claim 16 (new). A method as set forth in claim 15, wherein increasing the current moisture signal includes increasing the current moisture signal by a constant correction value.

Claim 17 (new). A method as set forth in claim 15, wherein increasing the current moisture signal includes increasing the current moisture value by a correction value obtained from a stored table.

Claim 18 (new). A method as set forth in claim 15, wherein increasing the current moisture signal includes increasing the current moisture value by a correction value calculated from a mathematical function.

Claim 19 (new). A method as set forth in claim 15, wherein determining the current moisture signal further comprises:

charging and/or discharging the moisture measuring element by way of a first measuring resistor to provide for determining a first time constant or a first period duration of the charging and/or discharging operation, and

charging and/or discharging the moisture measuring element by way of a second measuring resistor, whose value is different from the value of the first measuring resistor, to provide for determining a second time constant or a second period duration of the charging and/or discharging operation.

Claim 20 (new). A method as set forth in claim 19, wherein the capacitance of the moisture measuring element is calculated from the two time constants or the two period durations, and the moisture measuring element for the calculation operation is modeled by a parallel circuit of an ideal capacitor and an ohmic resistance.